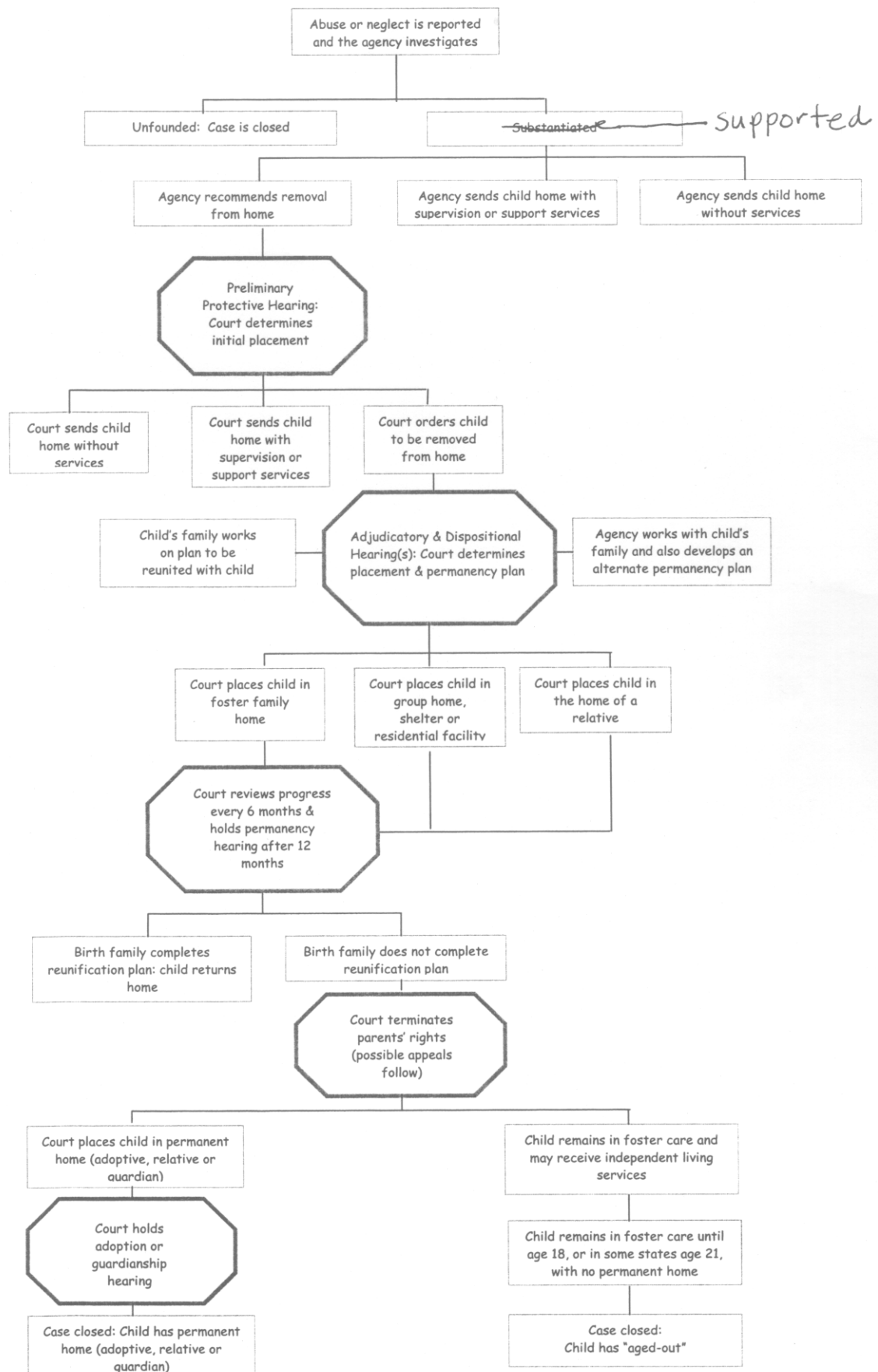


A Child's Journey through the Child Welfare System



Time Requirements for Dependency, Neglect and Abuse Cases

All numbered references are to 78-3a-301 et seq.

12 month time frame removal. 312 (1)(a).

24 hour notice to parties. 306 (3).

Within 72 hours of removal or parent entering domestic violence shelter at request of DCFS, or emergency kinship placements - hold shelter hearing. 306 (1).

One continuance only for 5 days max. 306 (7).

30 day preference for non-custodial parent placements. 307 (1)(a) and (8)(b).

Pretrial to be calendared within 15 days of shelter. 308 (1).

Pretrial may be continued up to 60 days from shelter. 308 (2).

Adjudication within 60 days of shelter. 308 (2).
5 day notice of adjudication hearing to be served. 309 (3).

At adjudication set 6 month review and permanency hearing. 310 (3)

Disposition no later than 30 days from adjudication. 310 (2).

Set time specifically for reunification efforts to end - not later than 12 months from removal. 311 (2)(c).

Court must set primary and concurrent permanency goals at DS and conditions for moving from primary to concurrent. 311 (2)(a) and (b)

12 month permanency hearing required if reunification services are ordered. 311 (2)(e)

Reunification services can be ended anytime. 311 (2)(c)

If no reunification services, permanency hearing must be within 30 days. 311 (3)(b) and 311 (7) or 311 (2)(b)

A child 36 months of age or younger at removal shall have a permanency hearing eight months after date of removal. Without substantial compliance - end services. 311 (2)(f), (i).

6 month time on abandonments. 311 (2)(9).
But if parents are found within 6 months services can be ordered. 12 month time limit is not tolled. 311 (5).

If substantial compliance is found at 12 months, a three month extension is allowed. 312 (3).

Termination pretrial within 45 days of permanency. 312 (4).

Decision on petition to terminate must be within 18 months of removal. 312 (6)(c).

